



GOD'S LOVE

HEAVENLY CHARM

A Persian fable says: "One day
A wanderer found a lump of clay
So redolent of sweet perfume
Its odors scented all the room.
'What are thou?' was his quick demand,
'Art thou some gem from Samarcand,
Or spikenard in this rude disguise,
Or other costly merchandise?'
'Nay: I am but a lump of clay.'

"Then whence this wondrous perfume—say!"
'Friend, if the secret I disclose,
I have been dwelling with the rose.'"
Sweet parable! and will not those
Who love to dwell with Sharon's Rose,
Distil sweet odors all around,
Though low and mean themselves are found?
Dear Lord, abide with us that we
May draw our perfume fresh from Thee.

—Streams in the Desert.

THE GROUND OF

"Blow upon my garden that the spices may flow out,"
Song of Solomon 4:16.

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NOTICES...

SPECIAL NOTICE

The Directors of Publications met at the Church of God Publishing House, Cleveland, Tennessee, September 17-19, consecutively, pursuant to a discussion of their duties, at which time a careful study was made relative to prices of Sunday School literature, Lighted Pathway and Evangel subscription rates.

As a result of this study, it was found, wages at the Publishing House have increased approximately 60 per cent since 1942, and that paper, incident to maintaining various publications, has increased in price approximately 47 per cent. Because of discontinuation of manufacture by the paper mills of the particular kind of paper now used, the Publishing House will have to adopt the use of a fifty-pound coated sheet of paper, which requires additional tonnage and substantially higher in price, necessitating an additional increase in cost of production of approximately \$17,000 for the year. Therefore, Directors of Publications authorized that the Church of God Evangel be increased to \$1.50 per yearly subscription, the Lighted Pathway be increased to \$1.25 per yearly subscription and that any quantity of Lighted Pathways going to a local church in excess of forty-two be charged for, at a rate of 6c per copy; that the Adult Quarterly be increased from 7c to 8c per copy and that the card sets be increased from 5½c to 6c per set. An increase of 20 per cent was also authorized on all state papers and like publications now

printed by the Publishing House. The increase of revenue provided herefrom will be far less than the amount of increased costs due to wage and paper increases. All publications, however, will be printed on a much better grade of paper, as early as present contract expires.

The management of the Publishing House and the Board of Publications will need your prayers and cooperation, as the high cost of living reflected everywhere around you is also stubbornly felt in the operation of the Publishing House.—J. A. Bixler, Chairman of Board of Publications.

My address is changed from Box 221, Weatherford, Texas, to 1412 Eldorado Street, Eldorado, Ill., Phone 106-R.—V. B. Rains.

My address has changed from Concord, N. C., to Rt. 5, Box 21, c/o John F. Thames, Fayetteville, N. C.—D. H. Delk.

DEATHS

ALFRED L. ROBINSON

Brother Alfred L. Robinson slipped away to be with Jesus September 16, 1946, age nineteen years. He was a faithful member of the Church of God for several years and was the pianist for our Sunday School. We all loved Brother Alfred and will miss him very much.—Anna Jenkins, clerk, Rt. 3, Seaford, Del.; L. J. James, pastor.

WALES

Mrs. Fannie E. Wales, widow of the late Lee Wales, passed away at her home in Cleveland, Tennessee, September 18, 1946, at the age of sixty-seven years three months and nine days. She was a devoted and loyal member of the North Cleveland Church of God.—Rev. James L. Slay, pastor.

STANLEY

Lattie Odell Stanley departed this life to be with Jesus, September 20, 1946. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. L. J. Allen, assisted by Rev. Elmer Thomas. His choice songs were sung by the Sacred Five.—His brother, Rev. Carl A. Stanley.

LAND

Mrs. J. L. Land, one of our loyal pioneers of the Church of God in Houston County, was born July 22,

1865, and, at the age of eighty-one years one month and fourteen days, passed on to receive her reward September 6, 1946.—Rev. J. A. Moody, Box 715, Crockett, Tex.

THOMAS

Brother Andrew J. Thomas, born in Missouri, June 14, 1885, departed this life November 10, 1945. He was a faithful member of the Church of God here.—G. H. Scott, clerk, 1472 E. Phillips Blvd., Pomona, Calif.

Requests for Prayer

PRAY FOR:

Sister Mary Mitchum to be healed.—Mrs. Roxie Braswell, Rt. 3, Jasper, Ga.

God to heal my body, and other requests.—Mrs. N. A. Corley, Rt. 2, Midland City, Ala.

The Lord to undertake for my son and me.—Mammie Lou Yesbick, Gen. Del., Dothan, Ala.

God to heal me of high blood pressure, heart trouble and stomach trouble.—Mrs. W. A. Baldwin, Rt. 3, Roanoke, Ala.

Mrs. Della Smith who is badly afflicted, that she will not need an operation.—Mrs. L. W. Davis, North Mewan, W. Va.

God to undertake for unspoken requests.—Johnnie McLeod, Rt. 2, Canton, Ga.

The healing of my little girl, my baby, my mother, who has been paralyzed for nine years, and the healing of my body.—A sister in Christ, Lavonia, Ga.

The healing of my husband of neuritis, and the healing of my body.—Mrs. R. E. Jones, Rt. 1, Kennesaw, Ga.

God to heal my baby. He is five years old, cannot talk, and is helpless.—Mrs. Glenn Phillips, Marked Tree, Ark.

The healing of Sister W. H. Wadsworth, Chehaw Park, Albany, Ga.

God to heal me.—Mrs. Agnes Reed, Grandview, Tenn.

The Lord to heal me.—A reader of the Evangel.

God to heal my little boy, my mother, and my little niece.—Mrs. Catherine Kerce, Box 172, Barwick, Ga.

The healing of my body. I will have
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THE CHURCH OF GOD EVANGEL

A Forsaken Master

By Rev. E. L. Kirk

Text: 2 Tim. 4:10a, "For Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world."

We know but very little about Demas. The Bible doesn't say much about him. From what it does say, we can readily understand that he was one of these fellows who was ready to go on as long as everything was all right, but when things were not all right, he was the first to turn back. But why did he forsake Paul? The text tells us that he loved the present world; in other words, the pleasures and things that appeal to the carnal mind. We notice that he forsook Paul at a crucial hour. Paul had many, many such hours, but surely, of all the hours of his earthly existence, this hour was the most critical. He was in prison and his death was only a few hours off, and surely if a person ever did need a friend it was at a time like that. But at this very time, when he was needed most, Demas turned back and forgot Paul, leaving him to fight his own battles alone.

We want to notice what Demas lost by turning back, for after all he was the greatest loser. To tell the truth, Paul didn't lose nearly so much as Demas, for, first of all, Demas lost the companionship of the greatest Christian of all ages, and surely it meant a great loss when he turned back and lost his companionship. I think, personally, one of the sweetest experiences of any one's life is to think, personally, of the hour you have been permitted to associate with some great Christian.

As I write these few lines, I am thinking now of the greatest Christian I ever knew and the many pleasant moments I had the great privilege of enjoying in his company. It is true that he has gone up above, but never will I forget those hours I sat at his feet and learned lessons that nowhere else could I have learned. I am speaking of beloved Rev. G. F. Taylor.

Another thing Demas lost was the opportunity to serve humanity. Just think of having the privilege to serve

our Lord and Master, and also poor lost humanity, with a great servant like the apostle Paul, and then to spurn such an opportunity. The greatest life that can be lived is that life that is lived for the Master's cause. What is grander and nobler than to give your life for suffering humanity? As we look out on the world today and see people everywhere fighting battles, carrying heavy burdens, and sin, sorrow, and death on every side, we can say to ourselves, we only see the surface, for, after all, the heaviest burdens that human hearts carry are those that we know nothing about, and there are, in every heart, heavy burdens that have never been revealed if we but only knew, for our experiences are about the same as the other fellow's.

Paul, the greatest Christian, went out into the world and helped to carry people's burdens.

The world is full of Demases today. You ask me why. It is because they love something better than they do God, and that something is the world. And our modern-day Demases are like the one who forsook Paul—they are forsaking in a critical hour. Surely

this is a critical age in which we live. If there ever has been a time that the Church needs men to stick, it is now, it seems to me. And yet many, many I know, who a little while ago seemed to me to love the Church, have turned back in the trying days in which we live. But they are the losers, for they, too, lose the companionship of the best people on earth (God's people are the best people on earth; but, thank God, you don't have to be a Demas). Not only do they lose the companionship of God's people, but they lose the great opportunity to serve the Master and humanity in the greatest age of the world. Surely the age in which we are living is a challenge to all to serve as never before. These days of perplexity, anxiety, and depression ought to appeal to all that is in us to give our best while we are passing through this selfish world, for we will never come this way again. What we do we must do quickly, or the opportunity will be gone forever. But I am persuaded to believe that their places, that is all who choose the Demas route, will be filled. Paul, yonder in a dark Roman jail, lost Demas but God sent Timothy, and let all who may, turn back in these days of battle, but remember this, God will fill their places, so let us not lose courage but let us, all who love the Master and our fellow man, press on through sunshine and rain, and, above all, God help us to be a Timothy and not a Demas.

Observations of the Bishops' Council, Youth Congress, and General Assembly

By Rev. T. M. McClendon

BISHOPS' COUNCIL, AUGUST 24-26

The bishops of the Church of God met in the Phillips High School auditorium, Birmingham, Alabama, to discuss recommendations brought from the Supreme Council. This was indeed a very outstanding meeting, since it had to deal with many important questions, such as changing our Assembly to come biennially, instead of annually, which in turn called for regulating the entire work setup of the Church to fit this change. The nominating of the officials and the Council of Twelve was a very interesting occasion. One thing very no-

ticeable was the splendid manner in which Rev. John C. Jernigan moderated this Council. He surely has proved to be a very capable and fair-minded leader in the Church of God.

YOUTH CONGRESS, AUGUST 27, 28

The Youth Congress, which convened just prior to the Assembly, was, in my opinion, a great step in the development of a great organization in the future. This first Congress was well planned and greatly honored of the Lord. The committee responsible for its preparation and management set themselves out in front as men with a vision of, perhaps, the greatest undertaking of the Church of God of

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My Testimony of Divine Healing

By MRS. J. E. BOTTS, 618 South 15th St., Independence, Kan.

At Bonanza, Arkansas, in 1922, on the twenty-eighth of June, I took sick. My baby was five days old. A terrible pain struck me in my right foot. In ten minutes, it was as black as though it were mortified. The doctor (Doctor Smith) of Bonanza, Arkansas, said I had inflammatory rheumatism, but no one knew what was the matter, for each doctor said something different. In a few days blood poison set up. My foot was lanced four times. The bones in my foot came unjointed. You could see the bone in one side of my foot below my ankle. Gangrene set up in my heel and even the sole of my foot rotted off to my instep. I could double the sole of my foot back over my toes. I took my husband's pocketknife and cut the sole of my foot off myself.

I knew nothing of God's healing and holiness, but somehow, when they wanted to operate on me I said no and that I knew God could heal me.

The pains were so severe they ran to my hip and would seem to go right into the joint. I would scream till it seemed I could be heard a quarter of a mile. It crossed my body and went into my left hand. It had to be lanced. It was as large as three hands. We had a specialist, Dr. Wolf of Ft. Smith, Arkansas, to come. He said he could do nothing at all. Another doctor came from Bonanza, Arkansas, and they held two consultations over me, but only shook their heads and couldn't understand and said there was no chance at all but that I would be gone by midnight. The folks cleaned out the room to lay me out in and called in a friend of ours to lay me out. This friend was a faithful servant of God. She was praying on the way to my house. God warned her I would be better when she arrived. She had so much faith she peeked over a large crowd of people and called to me, "How are you feeling?"

I said, "Fine."

She said, "Praise the Lord," very loudly.

People cried. The house was full of people.

My cheeks had turned black. My limb had turned black from my toes to above my knee. I was so low I could hear the angels singing. I tried to get the folks to listen, but no one seemed

to hear them. O what music and singing, I don't want to miss it. Then God sent three elders from Jenny Lind, Arkansas, to pray for me. They read the fifth chapter of James and said a lot of cheering things. That made me feel better. I didn't seem to think whether I would live or die. I thought I was ready to go should the Lord call for me. Just as the elders were leaving, the doctor came in. He said, "I see you have had the elders praying for you. How are you feeling? Did they do you any good or did they worry you?"

I said, "They didn't worry me a bit. I feel a whole lot better."

My husband came in about that time and said, "Yes, Doctor, I believe my woman's a going to get well. Thank the Lord!" The doctor wrung his thumbs and said in a fun-making way, "I hope to God she does." That didn't discourage me a bit. I still believed I would get well, but I felt as though that if I didn't go to Independence, Kansas, I would die. I lingered for three months and then I began to get better, but wasn't doing any good. My limb was drawn double. My foot just reached below my knee on my other limb. My hip seemed to be unjointed and pushed up into my back. My middle finger was unjointed (still is) on my left hand. Three fingers werestiff. My toes were stiff till I couldn't bend them at all. The bones in my foot came unjointed. The doctors all said I would always be a cripple if I wasn't operated on. That joint water would gather in my hip and would ooze out of my thigh to my knee, but I still said no. I didn't believe God would leave me crippled with my family to care for. I began to beg for crutches and finally got them, but couldn't get around to do any good. The folks thought if they would travel with me I would mend. We started on Thanksgiving Day. We traveled till Christmas, but I began to get worse and worse. I finally got so I couldn't stand the jolt of the wagon. By this time my hand and foot had healed. All the trouble had settled in my back and hip. The doctors had said there wasn't a drop of blood in my system only that had turned to corruption. My back had

raised till it was as large as a gallon bucket. It was gathered from one hip to the other and from the tip of my backbone to the joint between my shoulders, and was eating the bone out of my back. It would rattle like a rotten egg when you shake it. The right side of my stomach was as large or larger than my back. It looked like my baby had never been born. The throbbing was so severe it seemed like some one was hitting me with his fist in the top joint of my back on through into my chest, and nearly to my brain, almost to my heart beat. It was the week before Christmas. We had come to a place called Yonkers, Oklahoma, but I wanted to come on to Independence, Kansas, so the folks rented a place and stored away our things and we took the train to Independence. My husband carried me on the train and off. It was two o'clock Sunday morning before Christmas, when we reached my sister's home. My sister did not know me I was so poor and in such a bad shape. I only weighed 85 pounds. My sister fixed a fine dinner, but I couldn't eat a bite. I could only sit there and cry and moan, I was suffering so badly. God only knows how I suffered. I had to give up once more. I grew worse and worse. Words couldn't express my misery. We called another doctor, (Mamie Tonquary of Independence). She put me on a milk diet and didn't give me a thing but a little purgative.

Time rolled on till the last of February. I still grew worse. One day I got so bad, I could only cry all day, could hardly pray. Folks would come in and sing and pray, but somehow I just could not cheer up like I had before. It seemed like I had stood all I could stand. All I had to do was give up. Well, it came to me, something was holding me in the bed. A shadow came in front of me and I asked God to show me what was keeping me from being healed. All at once, it came to me. It was a grudge. I didn't think I had a grudge in my heart. I was talking to the folks and I said something that made me think, "Well, you must have a grudge or you wouldn't speak that way." The Divine Healers were at Coffeyville, so I wrote them a letter

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Crime Challenges the Church

Text: Rom. 1:21, "Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were they thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened."

This text had its occasion in the intention of the apostle soon to visit Rome. Naturally, he would desire the Christians in Rome to have his own statement of the great teachings of grace so stubbornly refuted everywhere by legalistic teachers. The apostle Paul, writing under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, informs us of the fact that at the time of Christ's coming it will be a time of unthankfulness, darkness, crime, and evil imaginations. Ingratitude is making a clean sweep of the entire world, seemingly. Darkness is covering the earth, and gross darkness the people. Mind you, these people of whom Paul is speaking are church folks, too.

It is the writer's opinion that too many professors of Christianity are more interested in personal benefits than in personal evangelism. The Church of God today is being challenged with all kinds of wicked, unholy spirits. All kinds of ungodly crimes are being committed by Christian-professing people today. It is not because of ignorance; they know better, "Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were they thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened."

Some people never realize that by going into the slums they may, perhaps, win many precious souls to Christ. Just now I am reminded of the sayings of the Lord Jesus: "They that are whole need not a physician, but they that are sick." Yes, the world is sick, nigh unto death. "Ah sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, a seed of evil-doers, children that are corrupters: they have forsaken the Lord, they have provoked the Holy One of Israel unto anger, they are gone away backward," Isa. 1:4.

Isaiah is justly accounted the chief of the writing prophets, and is distinctively the prophet of redemption. Nowhere else in the Word of God, written under the law, have we so

By J. L. Thornhill

clear a view or vision of the grace of God.

What we need is more good Christian leaders, like Isaiah, to stem the tide of this apostasy that is corrupting Christianity. Isaiah pictures her (the apostate) out to us in her sickness, thus: "And the daughter of Zion is left as a cottage in a vineyard, as a lodge in a garden of cucumbers (a congealed place), as a besieged city."

God is her adversary, hence He is against her in her corruption and sickness. He (God) speaks of her as being Sodom and Gomorrah. Read: "Except the Lord of hosts had left unto us a very small remnant, we should have been as Sodom, and we should have been like unto Gomorrah. Hear the word of the Lord, ye rulers of Sodom; give ear unto the law of our God, ye people of Gomorrah," Isa. 1:9, 10. We bring you over into the New Testament for further proof. "And their dead bodies shall lie in the street of the great city, which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt (world) where also our Lord was crucified," Rev. 11:8. Sodom is no place for a Christian. It corrupted (backslid) Lot, and it will corrupt (backslide) you, as it did Lot, unless you stay out of and away from her. Yes, it got Lot into trouble; but, remember, she is condemned to death, through an overthrow, one of these days. This world (Sodom) is a wicked place. It is going to be "turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God," Psal. 9:17. God spared not the old world in its sins, neither will He spare this old world (Sodom) that is blighted and corrupted with sin.

The Gentile world apostasy is on in full swing, yet the apostates profess that they know God in wisdom, but in reality they are fools only, "Without understanding, covenantbreakers, without natural affection, implacable (restless; dissatisfied), unmerciful: Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them," Rom. 1:31, 32.

Never before has there been such a challenging need for inspirational, aggressive leadership among the boys

and girls of this country. Church attendance, however, is a vital factor in the nation's crime prevention program. The churches have an excellent privilege, or opportunity to combat the causes of crime. Crime usually plants its seed in the mind of a child during the early, formative years. It comes when there is a lack of something, lack of discipline, lack of respect for the rights of others, disregard for parents and constituted authorities, the lack of emotional stability. In both the church and the home, children must be made to understand their individual responsibility for personal conduct. They must gain a personal appreciation of the law of home and the church. Children must be encouraged to acquire sufficient religious conviction to fortify their moral conception for later years when selfish ambitions, strong personal motives, dishonest associates, or some other negative misleading influence may seek to entice them into trading, or rather bartering their birthright as honest, forthright citizens for sordid careers of corruption and crime. It has become very imperative that every American arouse himself to the urgent need of this hour, which is respect, liberty, life, faith, hope and charity. It must be taught, preached, and practiced as a veritable crusade against prevailing crime.

The weakening of moral fiber, demonstrated by the figures released on the number of immoral crimes committed here in America, is not the only problem. The indifference, apathy, and lethargy of parents who have been directly responsible for young people failing to receive proper religious education and discipline, have also exposed them to the false philosophies of the theorists, whose teachings have been mushrooming themselves in practically every quarter of the globe, in the last few years. As one brother said not very long ago, "The average age of the young people attending the devil's movies today is between sixteen and twenty-one, and you couldn't reach into those assemblies and pick or gather out a handful of girls who would not sell themselves to the spirit of pleasure and lust for just a small trifle. On one

particular occasion, authorities entered a sampling of rooms in a certain high school, without warning, and confiscated the purses of twenty-five girls at random, to make an inspection of the contents. Nineteen purses out of the twenty-five contained contraceptive devices. Paul's description is: "Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonor their own bodies between themselves: Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen. For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their WOMEN (and GIRLS, too) did change the *natural* use (for contraceptives) unto that which is *against nature*," Rom. 1:24-26. Men are guilty, too, yet they go on in their evil ways, in their deception, not realizing the real seriousness of such ungodly practices and habits.

Why do men and women practice such cursed habits? The answer is: they are without real understanding, and are filling up their measures for the day of wrath. Rom. 1:18; Matt. 23, 32; Exod. 15:16. Yes, they have been turned over or given up to vile affections.

With reference to men's complete obedience to the will of God, Epictetus, a great philosopher, said, "I have placed my movements toward action in obedience to God. Is it His will that I shall have fever? It is my will, also. Is it His (God's) will that I die? Is it His will that I be put to the rack? It is my will then to die; it is my will then to be put to the rack." These words are conclusive evidence of the doctrine of Epictetus that a man ought to subject himself in "all things" to the will of God. No Christian martyr ever proclaimed a more solemn obedience to God's will. The Christian martyr indeed has given perfect proof of his sincerity by enduring torments and death.

Yes, we need homes where children learn obedience, respect for their parents, respect for law, respect for God and the religious principles which must be perpetuated if God's kingdom is to continue to grow and move onward. Through experience, we have observed that those who are active in some church are also the people who seem most interested in establishing a *genuine home* for their children. The greatest single factor in crime causation among juveniles, or young people, today, is the disinte-

gration of the home. Then, in this respect, the home is not fortified, nor as strong as it should be. Undoubtedly, juvenile (young folks) delinquency will continue to thrive until we are fervently determined to restore the home and the *family unit* to their former station or position of importance as the fundamental social unit in our home, church, and national life.

Yes, crime in its various forms continues to challenge the Church of God; not the church only, but the home and nation; likewise. The spirit of this age, as Paul stated, is moving people toward imaginary or idol worship at unexampled, breakneck speed. Note, "And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and four-footed beasts, and creeping things." Remember the first commandment. It forbids us to worship anything else, save Him (God) alone; the second bids us to worship Him spiritually. The Hebrews had come out of Egypt; and Egypt, according to both profane and Biblical history, was crowded with the images of a twofold mythology of the old African deities with their bestial emblems, and of the new foreign gods of the Shepherd Dynasty. That the tribes had brought small portable images of the Egyptian deities into the wilderness, and were secretly paying them honors there, seems to be implied. Ezek. 20:6-8. They were going into Canaan; and the tribes of Canaan had defiled it everywhere with traces of Baal and Astarte-Syrian idols—particularly cruel, but mainly obscene. They were continually absorbing, assimilating, and practicing, too, idol worship. All this pollution, corruption, and idol worship brought upon them God's frowns and judgments. They should have been seeking His mercy, for "he showeth mercy, he showeth mercy unto thousands of them that love him, and keep

his commandments." How beautiful to discover, at the very beginning of the Decalogue, the law of God, this reference to love! While God is absolutely just and absolutely holy, yet God loves men and longs to have them love Him. "Agree with thine adversary (Holy Ghost) quickly, whilst thou art in the way with him; lest at any time the adversary deliver thee to the judge (Jesus), and the judge deliver thee to the officer (chief executive, God), and thou be cast into prison (destruction)," Matt. 5:25.

The Church of God, in this present day, faces one of the greatest crimes of the ages. The powers of the enemy are intent upon defeating the Church and righteous principles. Seeds of doubt and criticism are being sown in the minds of our youth in many quarters. Public educational systems for the most part have eliminated all religious training. Sad but true, the home structure of our nation is suffering from hyperactivity, which results in no time for the training of the children in the ways of God. Teaching has always been employed through the centuries as a means blessed of God for the furtherance of divine interests. When the Israelites were encamped on the east side of the river Jordan, making preparation for their entrance into the Promised Land, God spoke to them through His servant Moses, saying, "And these words which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up," Deut. 6:6, 7. This command is to make the teaching of religion central in the new nation, therefore religious training is the only remedy for prevailing crime and the lawlessness of this sickening age.

Do We Believe the Bible?

This may seem to many as an absurd question. You might say, "Yes, everybody believes the Bible; of course they do." Well, if they believe it, why not obey it? St. John first chapter and first verse reads like this: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." We must believe the precious Word of God if we ever enter the pearly gates. St. Mark 16:16, "He that

believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned." Don't you see people today rejecting the Word of God as it is, and trying in their own ways to have a substitute that will suit their own fancies? May God help us to read the blessed Word, believe its teachings and take it for what it is worth—yes, salvation through the blood of Jesus.

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Our Ways Are Not God's Ways

By Mrs. Opal Capell

2 Peter 2:2, "And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of."

Surely there never has been a time in the history of the world when there were more people following their own pernicious ways, trampling the Word of God under their feet, denying the blood of Jesus, refusing to believe we can be freed from sin; and a great many of these are professing Christians, too, having a form of godliness but denying the power thereof. Verse 10 says, "But chiefly them that walk after the flesh in the lust of uncleanness, and despise government. Presumptuous are they, selfwilled, they are not afraid to speak evil of dignities." Verse 12, "But these, as natural brute beasts, made to be taken and destroyed, speak evil of the things that they understand not; and shall utterly perish in their own corruption."

How my heart bleeds for the thousands of souls who are doing just this. If there were only some way we could touch them, could make them understand what they are doing, for I am persuaded to believe that some are doing it ignorantly in spite of the fact that the gospel is free for them to hear, if they would only listen; but we know the Word says God doesn't wink at ignorance any more, so they won't get by that way. So many are willingly ignorant of the plan of salvation, don't want to hear anything about it, shut their eyes and their ears, won't listen to anything about Jesus, and call you fanatic if you persist in talking to them about their souls. Verse 3, "And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you: whose judgment now of a long time lieth not, and their damnation slumbereth not." We know, according to the Bible, that they are condemned and on their way to hell, if they don't repent.

You may say, "Well that's up to them. We are all free moral agents. If they want to go to hell, let them go on." I truly believe it is the responsibility

of every child of God to try to win souls. I know there are some who are going to hell in spite of everything, but there are others who, if someone would take an interest in them, invite them to church, would be won. Best of all, live holy before them. No matter how hard the going may be, stand firmly; be unmoveable, steadfast; as Paul says, always abounding in the work of the Lord, so they may see that truly our fellowship is with the Father and His Son Jesus Christ.

The world today needs the gospel of Jesus Christ as much as it ever did, and when I say gospel I mean the gospel as Paul and the rest of the apostles and disciples preached it—the true gospel; the sin-destroying, power-manifested kind; the gospel that Jesus brought to a lost and dying world, suffered and was humiliated, tortured, and finally crucified, so that it could be finished. This wonderful Savior gave His life so that a world lost in sin could be saved. He came to do His Father's will. "Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. He taketh away the first that he may establish the second." How little He was, and is, appreciated even among the ranks of holiness people.

There is a tendency to let up or not heed the Word of God, be offended if we are admonished or exhorted, don't respect our pastor as we should. We don't love each other like we ought to. It is indeed perilous when we see people in the Church of God avoiding each other. Some had rather be with sinners than with their Christian friends. There is something wrong.

Then there is that certain group who are going their own way and refusing to seek for the blessed baptism of the Holy Ghost. Although they say they believe and want Him, they show by their actions that they really don't. 1 John 2:3, "And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments," and almost the last commandment was to the apostles to "wait for the promise of the Father; for John truly baptized

with water, but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence." He also said they would receive power after the Holy Ghost came upon them—power to stand persecution, and finally a martyr's death before they would recede. Surely, if they needed the power, we need it today. If ever Christians needed the guidance of the Holy Spirit, it is now. We are too inclined to do as we please, to follow our own ways, and sometimes it isn't God's way either. If we haven't the Spirit dwelling within us, how are we to know His ways, for the Holy Spirit is a teacher. The Word says, He will lead us into all truth. We know if we are led by the Spirit we are safe. There is no danger of our getting on the wrong road. It is a sure way to eternal life. Oh, if we had more Holy-Ghost-filled Christians, people willing to go God's way instead of their own pernicious ways. The world has its eyes on people professing holiness. If they fail to measure up, if they stumble and go down, the way of truth is evil spoken of. Let us, as Church of God people, pray as we never have prayed before, and keep the blood-stained banner raised high.

O Father, help me to live so that by my life the way of truth will not be evil spoken of. Help me to push my own will aside, O God, and find out Thy will and go Thy way completely. Amen.

MY DESIRE TO DO HIS WILL

I'm praising the Lord today because He is such a wonderful Savior. The more I learn of Him the more wonderful He becomes. When I was twelve years old, the Lord saved me. Soon I felt the call to give my life in missionary service. I said I'd do God's will, but I started drifting back into sin. One day I told the Lord I'd never be a missionary, I didn't care what happened. From that day, my life was miserable. There was no peace. Then one night I awoke suddenly and there was a strange light in my room. Three times it came to my bedside. I felt that it was a warning from God and I was afraid. Soon afterward, I met Sister Garner, a holiness preacher's wife, and she and her husband showed me where I was standing. Praise God. I went to the altar and started seeking the Lord, and today, thank God, I am saved, sanctified and have received the Holy Ghost. Now it is my desire to go all the way with Jesus.—Leila Allen, Eudora, Arkansas.

Foreign Missions . . .

GOOD NEWS FROM EUROPE

Herman Lauster has been released from Prison Camp and returns to his work as Superintendent of the Church of God in Germany.

I know that all our readers will be very happy now that Brother Lauster has been returned to his field of labor in Germany. We are printing for your information and inspiration the first direct letter to the Mission Department since his release from prison.

His letter will reveal some interesting details and we are asking that you, dear reader, join in prayer for the work of the Church in this war-torn country.—J. Stewart Brinsfield, Executive Mission Secretary.

Bayreuth, Germany
July 31, 1946

Dearest Mother:

It has been two or three days since I have written you, but I have a very good reason. You see, I finally got to visit Sister Lauster and I have gotten back and all is well. I have much to tell you so this will most likely be the longest I have ever written.

I left Tuesday morning and a truck picked me up and carried me all the way to Nurnberg. From there I rode a jeep out to Ansbeck and ate chow with the A Company that I was first assigned to when I came overseas. Afterwards a couple of German civilians, a man and a woman, picked me up and were very nice to me. Luckily, I can speak quite fluent German and after a little chat they took a liking to me and drove me all the way to Krehwinkel, which, by the way, was about thirty miles out of their way. They were very wealthy, from what I could gather, and owned a circus that was touring the British Zone of Occupation.

Well, the trip down was very agreeable and the scenery was beautiful. I really wish you could see some of the German countryside. It is harvest time and the farmers are harvesting the wheat, or grain, I don't know what. Everything is either green or gold in color. The land is so well kept. All the farms are well mown and from a distance look like Mrs. Quillian's yard. Wish I could buy some land

and take it home with me and build my home on it.

I walked the last few hundred yards into the town to get the thrill out of trying to find the home. A little German boy directed me to the house and the first one I saw was her daughter. She came outside and spoke a little English and told me to follow her. We went inside of their little home and I waited for quite a while for Sister Lauster to come in. Their home looks very small from the outside but it is larger and has fine furniture on the inside. She came in and asked me if I was Brother Donahue. At first sight, I could tell what kind of a woman she was. She has such a kind, understanding look in her eyes, simple yet as motherly as could be. She reminds me of you, in that you can see the Lord in her face, a little grey-headed and almost as tall as I. The whole time I was there she treated me just like I was her son, and she would look at me so understandingly and motherly that it really gave me a blessing—so different from the Army. I have almost forgotten what a mother is like.

We sat down and talked all evening until Walter came in from working. We talked about everything in general and she insisted on fixing me something to eat, as I was tired and hungry. That was the only trouble I had while there—eating. I know they sacrificed to give me much. We had beefsteak, ham and eggs, strawberry preserves, chocolate cake, etc. That wasn't the bad thing about it. She would give me three times as much as she would give her own children and that was not stood for. I divided equally with them all. One morning she had ham and eggs and gave me two eggs and ate nothing for herself. I gave her my half but she never ate it. They get a little food through the UNRRA for the children because they are American, but, nevertheless, I think that they sacrificed so much for me.

I have so much to say that I don't know where to start and stop. They are the most devoted family that I have ever seen. She has three children: Walter, nineteen; Mary, sixteen; and Paul, nine years old. Whenever they eat a meal, they thank God and

after they eat she reads the Bible and everyone prays. There is such perfect unison and I don't think I heard a cross word out of a one of them while I was there. Walter is a lot like me—young, ambitious and adventuresome. Mary is a very quiet and sweet girl. I have a picture that she gave me of herself that I will send later. She is very sweet and innocent, with long black hair and a cute face. The cutest of all is little Paul. He is going to school and studying piano. Little blond-headed pest that you can't help liking the first time you see him. All in all, they are an ideal family, as I see it. It is really nice to see family life after so much of the Army. The next time I go I will take some pictures of them and send them home. I know you are getting tired of my telling you that I will send picture home, but now I have the film to take shots with the 120 camera.

I inquired as to her needing money and she said that some relatives were giving her money. Walter was working for the ridiculous pay of \$4.50 a month. That is the limit. He worked ten to twelve hours a day. So I gave them a hundred dollars and that should be enough to take care of them for quite a while. I told him to quit that job and study English before he went to the Bible School. Only \$4.50 a month! Ridiculous!

Oh, I'll never get over how swell they treated me while I was there. I told her I would try to get a furlough of two or three weeks and come and stay with her. It would be all right if I could draw some 10-in-1 army rations.

Well, I got to visit church with them at Asperglen. It was very good to be again in one of the old time Church of God meetings. There was singing, praying, dancing and speaking in the unknown tongues. It was more like prayer meetings we used to have about ten years ago. I felt the presence of the Lord more than at any other place for a long time. They are really hampered in the services, by not having a car to go to the meetings in. She would like for me to get her an excess, or surplus jeep, to go to the meetings in, but I think it would be very expensive to provide the gas, as it really drinks it up. If I could secure a civilian car, it would be a little better, as far as gas is concerned. I will tell Brother Cross and see what he has to say about it.

It was very hard to say good-bye, but I expect to visit them at least

once a month as long as I am over here. She fixed me some cakes and sandwiches to eat on the way back. It was just like one of my week-end passes from Camp Wheeler. Well, the trip back was about the same. I gave a German man a pack of fags that was going my way and he carried me all the way to the gate of the Service Troop, and that was that.

Say, would you fix up a box of food stuff, such as canned foods, sugar, and coffee and be sure to get some baking powders. I want to take it to Sister Lauster. It is a shame that so good a Christian as she, should have to go hungry. I took them chocolate and chewing gum and the like, and can take them more, but you can fix up a box of food, please! Send it to me. I will get it much sooner than if you send it directly to her. Also try to get a nice little manicure set for Mary.

Sister Lauster was willing to give me \$50 to get her some food and things.

All my love,
Byron Donahue
U. S. A.

Krehwinkel, Schorndorf
Wuerttemberg, U. S. Zone
August 27, 1946.

Mr. M. P. Cross
2502 Montgomery Ave.
Cleveland, Tenn.

My dear Brother Cross:

Yesterday evening we received mail from you, one letter, of July 10, '46, and one through Brother Donahue dated August 13, '46. In this last letter was my bishop-ordination paper, also two temporary licenses, for Brother Sonder and Brother Malle. We want to thank you very much for this. It is a great joy when we receive a letter from you. O praise the Lord for this sweet fellowship.

I wrote a letter to you the day before I left London, sent by air mail. I don't know if you ever received it. I asked you in that letter for my bishop-ordination paper and then a statement from the Church that I am sent as a missionary to Germany to establish the Church and oversee the work and that the Church would be thankful for the courtesy and help the officials of the Government would give me, in the American, English, and French Zone.

I am very thankful for the Bishop papers, as this will help me to go ahead with the Government here. So please send me, through Brother Don-

ahue, this other statement, that I can have proof for them, from the Church, that I am a missionary to Germany.

It is very hard to get gasoline here. I also want to buy a car, if possible, for winter, as my motorcycle will not be practical, when snow and ice are on the ground, and to get this I must go to the military government, and German officials. If I can prove facts, it will be a great help to me.

I am so happy that the Americans are here. Oh, glory to God! We can feel the freedom and protection. That was God's wonderful plan. It was heaven's police force against the powers of Nazis and godlessness. I am so thankful for the banner of Stars and Stripes. God bless America and with it now Germany.

We receive no Evangels at all and I know that the Evangel office is sending them, for Mrs. Jewells, Queenstown, Md., has subscribed them for us. So please tell the Evangel office to send it to Brother Donahue. If the Publishing House has some over, and they could send a bundle of ten or more every week, we could give them out, for quite a few are learning English now, around here. Please send it not directly to my address; send it to Brother Donahue, for it is not possible to send printed matter through German boundaries. I would pay the expenses through Mrs. Jewells. Also send me some Lighted Pathways for our youth, if possible, and one Teacher's Quarterly. Send the charges to Mrs. Martha Jewells, Queenstown, Md., Rt. 1, as we can send no German money. We have some money at Mrs. Jewells.

Today I have got the checks out of the place where I had them hidden from the Nazis, as we have lived partly from our own money, which we



Sunday School held in Sister Lauster's home. Kneeling at extreme right is Sgt. James Underwood, Jr., U. S. Army.



Left to right: Mary, Walter, and Sister Lauster. Paul in front. Taken at corner of their home.

brought from the U.S.A. and the offerings from the meetings, and did not want to use this money of the mission fund for Hitler's war-making machine.

The work here goes along fine. I have, since August 2, after I came back from England, traveled about 1,500 miles, preached twenty-eight sermons, and baptized forty-one converts. Some were sanctified and one received the Holy Ghost. I also made numbers of visits amongst our saints, where I found it most important for the welfare of the Church. I am very busy and so glad to be here now. Before I can set the different works in order, I want to preach the sound doctrines of the Church everywhere, that the people may see the light and the truth and the Church. More doors are opening and I wish I could be at several places at one time. Our brethren are doing a good work and are active in the Lord's services. I thank the Lord for them. Though they are young in the way, they have proved to be a blessing and to be called of God.

We want to print a Church of God Evangel in German; at first once a month and later, more if possible. Also, we would like to build some churches, as the different works have saved some money for this.

Please give us some help by a letter to the military government and the German officials here, so that we can get permission to build, to buy a car

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Reports

FROM THE FIELD

God Has Not Forgotten Us

HORNBEAK, Tenn.—We have just a little church out here five miles west of Troy, but thank God, He hasn't forgotten us, for He is blessing us in a wonderful way. We think we have just about the best pastor there is, and we all love him and his family. Five were saved recently.

We have prayer meeting every Sunday night. Also, we have our L.W.W.B., which has wired the church for electric lights, and we want to cover our church and put in new flooring. We are looking to God for help. We have only thirteen members, and about six attend regularly. Pray for our little church at Graves Chapel.—Mrs. Lottie Warix, Rt. 1, Clerk.

Feel His Presence in Every Service

ROSEBORO, N.C.—We are few in number, but we love Jesus, and the church dearly. We have such good messages in every service, and feel the presence of the Holy Ghost. We love our pastor, Brother Vollrath, who comes to us from Fayetteville, and we appreciate his interest and sacrifice for us. We are beginning our church building and are so thankful for the help some good friends have sent us. May the Lord richly bless them. We hope to have a great work established here that will prove a blessing to the saved and unsaved. We haven't grown much since being organized in July, 1945, but there have been many difficulties and the Lord has truly blessed us. We feel encouraged to press on against every hindrance for we are in a great cause.

Please, everyone, pray much for us.—Mrs. Alice Spell, clerk.

Pittsburg, Kansas, District Convention

PITTSBURG, Kansas.—The Pittsburg, Kansas, District Convention, which convened May 3-5 at the Pittsburg Church of God holds fond memories for those who were privileged to attend. The Holy Ghost came down in the opening session, and was with us mightily throughout the entire con-

vention. The opening message on "Power," by Rev. L. J. Potts, seemed to cause everyone to get into the service with their very best, and this message was greatly appreciated.

Rev. G. W. Messer brought a stirring message on "The Church of God in Its Present and Future Glory." The Holy Ghost put His approval on this message, and the people were made to realize how great the Church of God is, and just what it means to them.

Another soul-stirring message, by Rev. T. A. Perkins, on "Evangelism," caused our hearts to see the need of spreading the gospel which put a "Go ye" in us, and a burning zeal to work for God.

The special music and singing also added a flow of glory right down in

our midst, with special singing by the Pittsburg quartet and duets. The fine singing by Rev. and Mrs. L. J. Potts caused our hearts much joy.

Another fine feature of the convention which seemed to be a climax was the good reports of ministers and the progress in their work this year.

The closing message by Rev. A. R. Pedigo, state overseer, on "The Commission," was heart-touching, and made us want to have a part in spreading the gospel in the foreign lands. May God's richest blessings be on those ministers who answer the call to the heathen land, and may our small part help them to carry the gospel to those needy brethren.

The Bible was laid on the altar, and people walked up and laid their offerings on it, which amounted to \$208.85 for which we give God praise. The convention closed with handshakes and good-bys. The delegates from other places expressed their appreciation to the entertainment committee, as everyone was royally welcomed and cared for.—Rev. J. R. Berry, district overseer.

God's Heart Is Grieved

By Georgia D. Ballard

Gen. 6:6, "And it repented the Lord that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart."

Gen. 6:5, "And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually."

They had all gone out of the way, and had altogether become filthy, and God was grieved that He had to destroy them.

He made man for His own glory and made woman for man's glory, but when He looked down on the earth and saw the way the people were going, He was not pleased with them. Noah was a man that lived for God, and God said unto him, "The end of all flesh is come before me; for the earth is filled with violence through them, and behold, I will destroy them with the earth." Gen. 6:13.

The condition of the world is grieving God. "As it was in the days of Noe, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man. They did eat, they drank, they married wives, they were given

in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, and the flood came, and destroyed them all (save Noah and his family)," Gen. 17:26, 27.

The same conditions are existing today, therefore, God is grieved. The sins of the nations are grieving Him; the sins of individuals are grieving Him. Isaiah said He was grieved, His Holy Spirit was vexed. He became an enemy of the people, and fought against them. Isa. 63:10. How sinners are grieving God by not coming to Him! Matt. 11:28, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." Verse 29, "Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls." Oh, how people need to give their hearts to God and come to Him while they have time! So many are hardening their hearts against the call of God. Heb. 3:7, 8, "Wherefore (as the Holy Ghost saith, Today if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts, as in the provocation, in the day of temptation in the wilderness)

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REVIVALS

N. CHARLESTON, S. C.—I want to sound a note of praise to my blessed Savior. We have just closed another good revival at the Church of God at N. Charleston, with Sister Mabel Branch. She is a very deep preacher. God set His approval on His message. We have a good pastor, who has a precious wife and two darling children. Pray for God to bless their every effort.—Gatsey Rintz, 2033 Martin St., Liberty Homes.

LEPANTO, Ark.—I thank God for victory over sin, and for the revival that just closed here—about four miles from Lepanto, Ark. Brother A. G. Young, of Mississippi, was in charge. Oh, how the Lord blessed. Brother Young is truly a man of God. He really did some old time holiness preaching. There were eleven saved, four sanctified, four filled with the Holy Ghost, and three added to the church at Lepanto as there is no church out here. At times, the Holy Ghost took charge and there was no preaching. Pray much for those who were saved to keep on until they receive the Holy Ghost. Pray for the church here.—Mrs. Arcina Avery, Rt. 1, Box 144C.

GRANDVIEW, Tenn.—The Church of God here has just closed a four weeks' revival, with Brother and Sister Martin of Knoxville doing the preaching. Eighteen were saved, eight sanctified, eight filled with the Holy Ghost, eleven baptized in water, and seven added to the church. The revival closed with good interest, and with hungry souls in the altar. We give God all the praise for this wonderful revival. Pray for us, that we will do His will until He comes.—Mrs. Carl Reed.

FONDE, Ky.—A revival has just closed here with Brother Squire Broyles as the evangelist. The church was greatly blessed, for which we give God the glory. Eighteen were saved, four sanctified, fifteen baptized in water, and thirteen added to the church. We are surely proud of our

young folks and know they will be a blessing to Fonde church. Sunday night, in a healing service, two were baptized with the Holy Ghost. The service lasted until 12:10 a. m., the Holy Ghost leading.

Fonde church has doubled the membership the past year. We are looking forward, and trusting in God for a more progressive year than ever before.

Rev. Bill C. Goodman is our pastor; he was our pastor last year, also we appreciate his efforts in helping our church programs go over. We truly believe Brother Goodman and his wife will be a blessing to our church. Pray for us.—Beatrice Bell, clerk.

WARESBORO, Ga.—We have just closed a revival at Waresboro, Ga. Three were saved, three sanctified, three baptized with the Holy Ghost, four baptized in water, and three added to the church. The revival was conducted by the Rev. W. M. Hubbard. Brother Hubbard preaches the old time gospel, and lets God have His way.—O. V. Brown, pastor.

GREENBACK, Tenn.—I praise God for the ways He has blessed at the Church of God at Thompson Chapel. We closed a revival the 19th of August. Two were saved, one sanctified, four filled with the Holy Ghost. The Lord is giving wonderful services right on. Pray for us.—Mrs. Dewey Dailey, Rt. 1.

JACKSON, Ohio.—On Sunday, July 21, it was my happy privilege to begin a revival with Brother J. B. Elington and his good people at Jackson. It continued three weeks. The Lord surely blessed us from night to night. Some were healed, thirteen saved, eight sanctified, one filled with the Holy Ghost, and four added to the church. We praise God for His blessings.—Evangelist O. D. Gammon.

NEW ORLEANS, La.—We thank God for the great revival at New Orleans conducted by Rev. Curtis Clark of Nashville, Tenn. His messages were

helpful and uplifting. Souls were saved and filled with the Holy Ghost. Not only were sinners saved, but Christians were revived and backsliders reclaimed. We desire your prayers.—Rev. O. L. MacManus, pastor.

SUMITON, Ala.—We praise God for a wonderful three weeks' revival conducted by Rev. C. D. Henry and assisted in music by his wife. God was with us in every service. Such a wonderful spirit prevailed, the true spirit of God, and the blessed Holy Ghost. In many services the Holy Ghost came down and souls fell in the altar without a song or plea.

During the revival, twenty-eight were saved, twenty sanctified, and seventeen filled with the Holy Ghost. The church as a whole was blessed. Thank God, the days of revivals are not over!

We pray that God will bless Brother and Sister Henry as they go on in their work for the Lord, and give them many souls for their hire.—A. V. Cooker, pastor.

TESTIMONY

Deliverance From the Swamp

NATCHEZ, Miss.—On a cold morning, February 14, 1946, Red Easton, colored, and I, Elbert Jones, went rabbit hunting in the dark Homochitta Swamp. We were completely surrounded by the Homochitta River and Big Creek, with only one passage for escape. Not thinking of danger, we ventured deeper and further into the swamp, crossing a creek and proceeding closer to the river. We had started about 11 a. m., and around 3 p. m. we started home. As we turned toward the outlet of the swamp, we felt water around our ankles and discovered that the water of a recent rain was coming into the swamp. We found the creek and crossed it. By that time, the water had gotten up to our shoulders. Red said, "I believe I can wade out." But I didn't believe he could. He got as far as a tree and there he found the water to be over his head.

He called for me to come and help him. I tried, but could not get to him because of the swiftness of the current. It seemed that God was there before I called Him for just as I was swept past Red on the current, I saw a log. I thanked God and hugged the log with all my might. Red slipped

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... TESTIMONIES ...

Healed of T. B., Without a Doubt

Dear Evangel Readers,

About two months ago, a sister and I visited a middle-aged woman who had had tuberculosis for three years. She had spent nearly ten months in the T. B. Camp on Lookout Mountain near this place, and the doctor finally told her husband to take her home and try not to contract the disease himself, for no medical aid or treatment of any kind could do her any good, her case was hopeless, and for them to let a married daughter keep the two children as it was not safe for them to stay with their mother.

For months, she had waited for death. She was not a Christian, but was hungry for the Lord. Others had prayed with her, but she said she had not believed as she wanted to and she was so unhappy. She was terribly weak and could hardly talk, but got out of bed, down on her knees, and began to pray. At first, she just hung her head and prayed and seemed to get nowhere. We told her to look up and clap her hands for joy, for all good gifts come from above, and with joy, faith would come. We anointed her with oil in the name of the Lord and prayed with her for thirty minutes, but before we prayed we read to her James 5:14-16, and we confessed our faults one to another and she said, "My fault is that I have turned the Lord away too long and that is why I'm in this condition."

"As she looked up, raised her hands toward heaven, clapped them and praised the Lord, joy and healing came, and, as Eccl. 3:4 teaches a time to laugh, the laugh came. She laughed and praised the Lord and we sang for about thirty minutes. We left her still laughing and praising God.

Three days later, another sister and I went back. She was up and praising the Lord. She said she had an appetite for the first time and couldn't eat enough, and had not wanted her snuff any more.

Three weeks later, I went back and she was out in the yard talking with some neighbors. She said she had gained four pounds and was still eating a lot, and that she had as soon

have dirt in her mouth as snuff. A few days later, I saw her in town and she said, "All my weakness is gone and I'm still so happy because the good Lord has done so much for me and is going to baptize me with the Holy Ghost and save my children." She is attending church with the dear children of God who first prayed for her.

Truly His Word is true. This dear woman meant business with God and I truly believe she was the one who prayed the prayer of faith and the Lord raised her up and also forgave her sins. All glory and honor to our great Savior and Physician.—Mrs. Walter Daughdrill, Gadsden, Ala., Rt. 4.

God Certainly Blesses My Soul

Dear Evangel Readers:

Greetings in Jesus Name. While praying this afternoon, I felt impressed to send in my testimony to the Evangel.

I have a place back in one of the small gun turrets that I use for a prayer room sometimes. God certainly does bless my soul, too. I am glad that I am still saved, sanctified, and have the Holy Ghost. The way may get rough sometimes, but God is always ready to help us.

I came into the Navy last January, and since that time I have had the privilege to talk to several boys, and most of them are unsaved. They all seem to have the same reason—"I will wait a while longer and enjoy the pleasures of the world." They need to find a real joy, that is everlasting. I'm like Moses, I had rather suffer with God's people than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season. I am looking forward to the day when we can enjoy ourselves around the throne of God throughout eternity. Praise the Lord!

I request the prayers of all of God's people, that I will continue to serve the Lord and do His will. Also pray for my father and mother, who are afflicted in body and need your prayers. My father is pastor of the Church of God at New Summitt, Arkansas.—A. E. Willingham, Slc Engineering Office, U.S.S. New Jersey (BB62) % F.P.O. San Francisco, Calif.

He Means More to Me Than I Can Tell

It seems that while reading the Evangel this morning, I felt impressed to write a few words. I thank the Lord for what He means to me. He means more to me than I'll ever be able to tell. Praise His name. He loved me enough to shed His blood on Calvary's cross that I might not be lost. No matter how hard trials may get, He will help us, for He is ready, with outstretched arms, to take us in and comfort us. He said He would "never leave us nor forsake us." Glory to God! I thank Him because He saved and sanctified me, and for that great desire I have to serve Him. Surely He is soon coming back for His people and I want to be ready, don't you? Pray for me that I'll stay in the center of His will.—Dora Dean Miller, Rt. 1, Box 156, Warrenton, N. C.

Jesus Is Real in My Life

I am so glad that six years ago the Lord saw fit to save my lost soul, sanctify me, and fill me with the precious Holy Ghost. I am sixteen years old now and thank God because He is real in my heart and life.

I thank and praise the Lord for healing my body of typhoid fever two weeks ago. I had such high fevers that the nurses in the hospital were bathing me in ice water, keeping ice bags on my head, giving me ice to eat and also giving me penicillin shots every three hours. Their doing all of that is what caused me to realize how ill I was, then I began calling on God. He came down in a mighty way and cooled my fever of between 107 and 108 degrees. The doctors told Mother and Dad that I would be in there at least five or six weeks, but, thank God, I came out of the hospital the tenth day.

Just two weeks before I had typhoid fever I was rushed to the hospital for an appendectomy. Naturally, I was weak from that. I thank God because He has been real to me and has brought me through all of my sickness. Now I am up and around. I have to hold on to things when I walk but I am still trusting in God. In my hours of despair, when my fever was so high, Jesus was there. I could feel His presence with me. Pray for me, that I will be a living testimony for Jesus. In case anyone would wish to write to me, I'll be very glad to hear from you.—Miriam Mason, Box 234, Parris Island, S. C.

God Wonderfully Healed Me

I want to praise God for full salvation and for His wonderful healing power. I was saved in March, 1931, and healed of stomach and heart trouble. I was at death's door. The doctors had given me up, saying there was nothing they could do for me.

My husband went for Brother E. W. Williams, who was the pastor here at that time. He came with his wife and precious mother. They prayed for me and God healed me and saved my soul. Later I was sanctified then in a few weeks received the Holy Ghost. It still abides in my soul today for which I thank God.

I started to trust God with my body at the time I was saved and I trusted Him until March, 1945. I suffered with serious head trouble and requested prayer through the Evangel. I could not seem to get the faith I needed to get healed and my family insisted that I try some medicine for relief. I yielded and started taking medicine, after trusting God for fourteen years, and soon I had began to suffer with stomach trouble again. The doctors did everything they could but on December 23 they told me there was nothing else they could do. I was down to ninety-five pounds.

I told my husband I was not going to take any more medicine and I did not and God wonderfully healed me. I can eat anything I want and have gained twenty-three pounds. I am praising God for it for He is the One Who did it.

The enemy is after me again and I am suffering with gall bladder trouble. I desire the prayers of every one that reads this that God will heal me.

I praise God for the church here at Jacksonville, and for our good pastor and his wife, Brother and Sister R. Alderman. Our church is on fire for God. May God bless you all in your work is my prayer. — Sister Martha Boree, 355 E. 6th St., Jacksonville, Fla.

He Will Never Let Us Down

I would like to give a note of praise to my Savior for His blessed healing power. The devil has tried to keep me from testifying to this but, thank the Lord, I have One who can help me overcome the devil.

A few months ago my baby fell in the fire and burned his left hand badly. I tried to doctor it, but he wouldn't hold his hand still and was crying. I worried with him for a long time, trying to stop him from crying,

but finally I gave up and let God take charge. I got on my knees and called on God, asking Him to take the pain and soreness away, and thanks be to God, it wasn't long before the baby was resting and it never did give him any trouble and there isn't a scar.

A week ago, my baby got hold of some rat poison. How much I do not know, but it really gave my husband and me a scare. God spoke to me and told me to go out somewhere and pray, so I did that and the worry left me. Later, I felt burdened so I promised God I'd testify to His healing and protection if He would take care of my baby. He will never let us down if we will obey and trust Him.

Saints everywhere, please pray that I'll do exactly what God wants me to do, and pray a special prayer for my husband that God will save him. It seems like he is drifting farther and farther away from God. I want to see him and my father and brothers saved.—Mrs. James E. Dabbs, Star Route, Larkinsville, Ala.

God's Healing Power Is Still Wonderful

NAUVOO, Ala.—I want to give all of my praise to God this evening for His goodness and mercy to me and my family. He is the best Friend that we can have in trouble and need. I am so glad that one day I started to make heaven my home. I love this good holy way. It just suits me. Praise the holy name of Jesus! I mean to hold up the blood-stained banner for Him because He is all in all to me. I am so glad of the Holy Ghost, praise the Lord. The Holy Ghost is our Comforter. He helps us to stand the test when the trials come.

I am glad that our home has become a home of prayer. About eleven months ago my husband and I were saved. My husband has the Holy Ghost and trusts the Lord. He had an operation on his back five years ago last October and could hardly do any kind of work, and all the doctors that he went to told him that they could do him no good. But thank God, last fall, the Lord healed his back. He works just like he did before he was operated on. Then, this spring, early one morning, he had a heart attack. I called the saints of God in to pray for him. They got in touch with the Lord, and he was healed of that. He came out of bed shouting and giving all the praise to God. About three

weeks ago, his legs began to bother him. One morning he tried to get up, and walk, and his leg was paralyzed. He could not move from his waist down. I called the saints in, and that night about ten o'clock the Lord wonderfully healed him.

Why should men and women not live for a Savior like that? We just can't praise Him enough.

We have a good Sunday School here at Nauvoo; also a good Y.P.E. We thank God for our good pastor and his good wife, Rev. and Sister Pair.

Everybody pray for us that we will be true.—Brother and Sister Curtis Swindle.

Serving Him in the Beauty of Holiness

My husband and I promised the Lord if He would make it possible for us to get out of the Army Air Force to go home that we would get near the church, go to church regularly, and serve Him in the beauty of holiness. Praise God! That is what we are doing, by His help. We were not home long before we started having revivals and we have had five already. Many have been saved, sanctified, and filled with the Holy Ghost. Some have been added to the church. In one revival, the evangelist was Sister Gloris Griffin, of Hazlehurst, Ga. She stayed in our home most of the time and surely was a blessing to our home.

I was cleaning the yard last week and got poison oak on my leg. It got so bad I could not rest day or night so I went to our mid-week prayer meeting and the saints called on God and he greatly touched my body. That night, as I was getting a drink of water the Lord spoke to me and said, "Don't drink or eat until tomorrow at 1 p.m. and then send in your testimony to the Evangel that I have healed you of poison oak." The next evening my leg began to hurt so that it seemed I could not stand it. I went to the phone and called Sister Connell and husband to pray for me. My husband and I got down and prayed and I promised the Lord I would step out on faith.

Brother Connell is one of the converts of Sister Gloris Griffin, but he does not have the Holy Ghost, so pray that he will receive Him soon. Also pray for us, that we will do the will of the Lord at all times.—Rosa Lee Griffin, 1122 Sharp St., Bainbridge, Ga.

FOREIGN MISSIONS

(Continued from page 9)

and get gasoline. This is all under military restrictions. Things are hard to get. This war has wrecked business in Germany, but opened the door for the gospel.

Walter went yesterday to see the U. S. Consulate. He has everything ready now and has been told to come two weeks before he wants to travel.

He thinks to go about October, then he can have some more exercise in the American language and be ready for the school after Christmas, as you said. Walter is with me in the meetings most every day.

Pray for us please, that we may go on in His strength. We remain, yours faithfully for the Church of God. — Brother and Sister Lauster, with family.

MY TESTIMONY OF DIVINE HEALING

(Continued from page 4)

telling them my condition and how I felt. At seven o'clock that eve the healing power struck me. It felt so sweet and I went off in a trance. Every little bit they would test me to see if I were dead. I knew everything until about six o'clock the next morning. I went to sleep. The first good rest I had for nine months. The folks all thought I was dead, but I was only resting. Then when I woke up I jerked the plaster off my back and jerked a piece of flesh out with it, and, oh, how it did run. I could press on my hip and the corruption would run out my leg and back at the same time. It ran three ways at once. The doctor said she believed she was safe in saying there was a gallon of corruption. I say there was more than that, for I was lying in a puddle of corruption from my arm pit to below my knees. I didn't have faith enough to believe I could be healed all at once as I was so full of corruption, but I knew God had healed me. Thank God, I got up and dressed myself. My leg had straightened out, my joints went back together, my fingers are limber with only one unjointed for a sign. I know my back is quite stout for I can do as much as most women my age. I have been the mother of seven children since that time. I have ten in all. Thank God for good health and strength, outside of a weak heart and God will care for that. One doctor said he had been in practice forty-

three years and had doctored three hundred cases like mine, but I was only the second one to get well. I give my God the praise. In thirteen months from the time I took sick, I could walk alone once more. I had to get rid of that grudge and get cleansed from all sin. I am writing these words that it might help some poor souls. God's blessings be upon this tract. I know God has all power to heal all kinds of diseases and to save souls, to take away all hindrances that might keep people from being healed. Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

May God bless these words to some one's heart, that they might be saved and healed.

I will talk to any one about healing. I can show you the scars of my experience with that affliction. I am a member of the Church of God in Independence. God led me here and put me where I am. I mean to stay till God calls me home to Glory. I want to do all I can for my Lord.

DO WE BELIEVE THE BIBLE?

(Continued from page 6)

Revelation 22:18, 19 reads like this, "For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book." We must believe God's way and plan of salvation, and not our way, as some may say. May God help us to study and read His precious Word prayerfully, for instruction, for reproof, and for correction, laying aside all opinions of our own, not adding to nor taking from, but just believing it as it is. Praise God and bless His good name.

I desire your prayers for the Church of God at Roseboro, North Carolina. We are very few in number but we love the cause for which we stand. We have three good lots paid for and some little money in the bank to help start on a church building.

"Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest" Eccl. 9:10.

OBSERVATIONS OF THE BISHOPS' COUNCIL, YOUTH CONGRESS AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

(Continued from page 3)

all times. We are behind our Youth for Christ Movement one hundred per cent. I am expecting, in the early future, to see this Youth Congress a mighty force for God and our young people.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY, AUGUST 29-SEPTEMBER 1

Our General Assembly is a well known event in the lives of all Church of God people, and this one was not inferior to many. We were blessed with great singing, preaching, and shouts of victory! Pleasant fellowship, hearty hand-clasps, and "God bless you's" were everywhere. The General Overseer's annual address was the keynote of this great meeting. The ministers in turn preached as they were moved on by the Holy Ghost. The mission service Saturday night was well attended. In fact, the attendance through the entire meeting was excellent. The foreign fields were well represented, also the Mission Board announced the appointment of several new missionaries who will be leaving soon for their various fields. The Frenches will go to India; the Stilwells, to West Africa; the Hatfields, to Palestine and Egypt; and others, to the islands of the sea. I may not mention every one and I'm sure it would be impossible to tell it all, but it was a glorious time to every heart that was attuned to the spirit of the occasion. Let us pray that our God will direct us in all future efforts for Him.

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GOD'S HEART IS GRIEVED

(Continued from page 10)

ness." Heb. 3:10, "Wherefore I was grieved with that generation, and said, They do always err in their heart; and they have not known my ways."

There is danger in grieving God. He turned against Israel. Heb. 3:11. He will turn away from you. God will laugh, and mock at those who grieve Him, in the time of calamity. Prov. 1:24-26. He will not hear our prayer. Prov. 1:27, 28, "When your fear cometh as desolation, and your destruction cometh as a whirlwind; when distress and anguish cometh upon you. Then shall they call upon me, but I will not answer; they shall seek me early, but they shall not find me."

I want to do my best to help people come to Him. The Lord is so good to me. He has blessed me in many ways. He saved me in 1927 and I received the Holy Ghost in 1928. I have found Him a friend in the time of need. What He has done for me, He will do for others. 2 Peter 3:9, "The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance."

TESTIMONY

Deliverance From the Swamp

(Continued from page 11)

from the tree and stayed under water for some time. When he came up, a log was there and he caught it. I asked, "Red, will the log hold me, too?" He answered, "Yes," and then I told him that I was coming to him. I did, and just as I felt that I was going under, I saw the log and took hold of it. I crawled upon the log and started calling on the Lord. I could feel His precious warmth and presence and forgot Red. But as I came back to reality, I saw that Red wasn't praying. I then started preaching, but it was no use. He showed no repentance. About 11 p. m., Red froze to death, and gently slipped into the water, out of this world without God. When Red died, it seemed that Satan said, "You will be next, then you will be gone." I said, "Satan, you are a lie and the father of one." Then the Holy Ghost came over my body, and began to warm me. Twice I felt like going to sleep, but I fought this with the power of prayer and, by God's great power, I was saved by the fireman of Natchez and a colored man. I was taken to the

hospital, and when I appeared in the sheriff's office the next morning, he could hardly believe that it was I. But this only proves what God's great power can do. Thank God!—Elbert Jones, 503 S. Coral St.

REQUESTS FOR PRAYER

(Continued from page 2)

to undergo a major operation if God does not undertake for me.—Mrs. August Gertz, Hogan, W. Va.

The Lord to completely heal my body.—Mrs. Justine Burchette, Land-graff, W. Va.

A very urgent request. Encouragement appreciated.—Daisy Driver, 116 N. Tarboro St., Wilson, N. C.

God to heal my body.—Mrs. E. B. Cagle, Palmer, Tenn.

Mr. Richard Campbell, Roseboro, N. C. Encouragement appreciated.—Mrs. Alice Spell, Roseboro, N. C.

God to completely heal my body.—Mrs. Walter Thomison, W. Fourth St., Graham, Tex.

A very special request.—Fannie Myers, P. O. Box 159, Winston-Salem, N. C.

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